



Good Morning

My name is Robin Gleason and I am an Assistant Professor of Education at Alverno College where I teach pre-service teachers to become effective teachers of literacy. I am also a former reading specialist and English/Language Arts Chairperson for the Wauwatosa School District. In my role at Alverno, I have had the privilege of visiting several primary classrooms across our area where the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts are being implemented with enthusiasm and rigor. I have witnessed truly wonderful and focused teaching and children who are becoming strong critical thinkers who are learning how to share their thoughts about their reading with others. These children are also developing into writers who can write for a variety of audiences and purposes. Since teachers are implementing the Common Core State Standards, I have seen both the teaching and the learning be lifted to a higher and amazing level.

I am truly distressed about what I read in the paper about what is going on in our state around the Common Core State Standards. This has become a political football – and politics have no place in the lives of our children. It saddens me that a small minority of our population with this political agenda can decide what the future of education will be for all of the children in our state. The disrespect shown to professional educators through this process is alarming.

I encourage you and others to visit the classrooms where the Common Core are being implemented. Teachers, schools, and whole school districts have already put in countless hours and a great deal of effort to design curriculum as well as assessments and to provide staff development to implement these standards. The results are already amazing. Please do whatever you can to stop Senate Bill 619.

Thank you for your efforts,

Robin Gleason

Assistant Professor of Education

Alverno College